

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

As stated above, Applicant elects Group I, Claims 1-27, drawn to a filter material or filter body and respectfully traverses the requirement for restriction for the following reasons:

It is believed that any search for the Invention embodied in Group I would necessarily include a search of the Invention embodied in the remaining Group II. Thus, a simultaneous search for all of the Inventions is believed not to constitute an unreasonable search for the Patent Examiner.

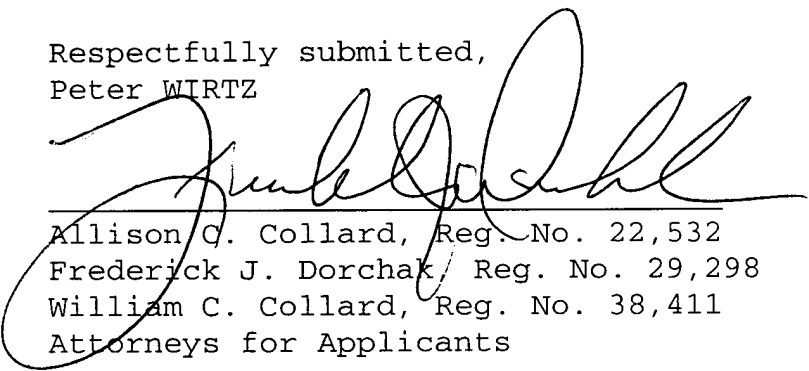
In addition, it is believed that the objectives of streamlined examination and compact prosecution would be promoted if a search were conducted simultaneously for all of the Groups. Also, the necessity of filing multiple patent applications in this case does not serve to promote the public interest because of the extra expense that is involved, in filing fees and examination costs, as well as the burden upon the public due to the necessity of searching through a multiplicity of patent files in order to find the complete range of subject matter claimed in

several different patents that could otherwise be found in one issued patent only.

Applicant reserves the right to file divisional applications for the non-elected invention.

For all these reasons, it is respectfully requested that the restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. §121 be withdrawn, and that an action on the merits of all the claims be rendered.

Respectfully submitted,
Peter WIRTZ



Allison C. Collard, Reg. No. 22,532
Frederick J. Dorchak, Reg. No. 29,298
William C. Collard, Reg. No. 38,411
Attorneys for Applicants

COLLARD & ROE, P.C.
1077 Northern Boulevard
Roslyn, New York 11576
(516) 365-9802
FJD:djp

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Kelly Espitia